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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6317**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 471

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 10, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 9, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Electronic Filing of Campaign Finance Reports.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Hershman

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Battles

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed Senate

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) *Develop Electronic Filing Standards*- The bill requires the Election Division to develop, and the Election Commission to approve, electronic filing standards for campaign finance reports.

*Filing of Duplicate Reports*- The bill eliminates a requirement that a candidate for legislative office and the candidate's committee file with the county election board of the county in which the candidate resides a duplicate copy of each required report filed with the Election Division.

*Local Candidate's Committee Expenditures*- The bill establishes a local office large expenditure candidate's committee designation for certain local office candidate committees that receive more than \$10,000 in contributions or make more than \$10,000 in expenditures during a reporting period. The bill requires a local office large expenditure candidate's committee to file reports, notices, and other instruments electronically with the Election Division (instead of with a county election board). The bill reduces from \$50,000 to \$10,000 the contribution threshold for a political action committee to file campaign finance reports electronically.

*Political Action Committees*- The bill requires a political action committee to file reports electronically with the Election Division if the committee makes more than \$10,000 in expenditures in a reporting period. The bill makes conforming changes to recognize other forms of electronic filing in addition to electronic mail.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *Develop Electronic Filing Standards*- The Election Division would

be able to develop electronic filing standards within their existing level of resources. The Election Commission could approve standards during a normally scheduled business meeting.

(Revised) *Local Candidate's Committee Expenditures*- This provision would require more committees to file campaign finance reports and other notices electronically with the Election Division. The impact of this provision on the Election Division would depend on the standards as approved by the Election Commission with respect to electronic filing of campaign finance reports. (Under current law, the Election Division must provide training for filing of reports at no cost to candidates.)

(Revised) *Political Action Committees*- There would be more Political Action Committees (PAC) filing electronically. Currently, a PAC must file electronically with the Election Division if the PAC received more than \$50,000 in contributions since close of their previous reporting period.

Background- The Indiana Election Division reverted \$23,000 to the General Fund at the end of FY 2008.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Filing of Duplicate Reports*- County election boards would have a savings in staff time for other duties.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Indiana Election Commission; Indiana Election Division.

**Local Agencies Affected:** County election boards.

**Information Sources:** Indiana State Budget Agency: *General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries, June 30, 2008*.

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